

Regional Conservation Planning

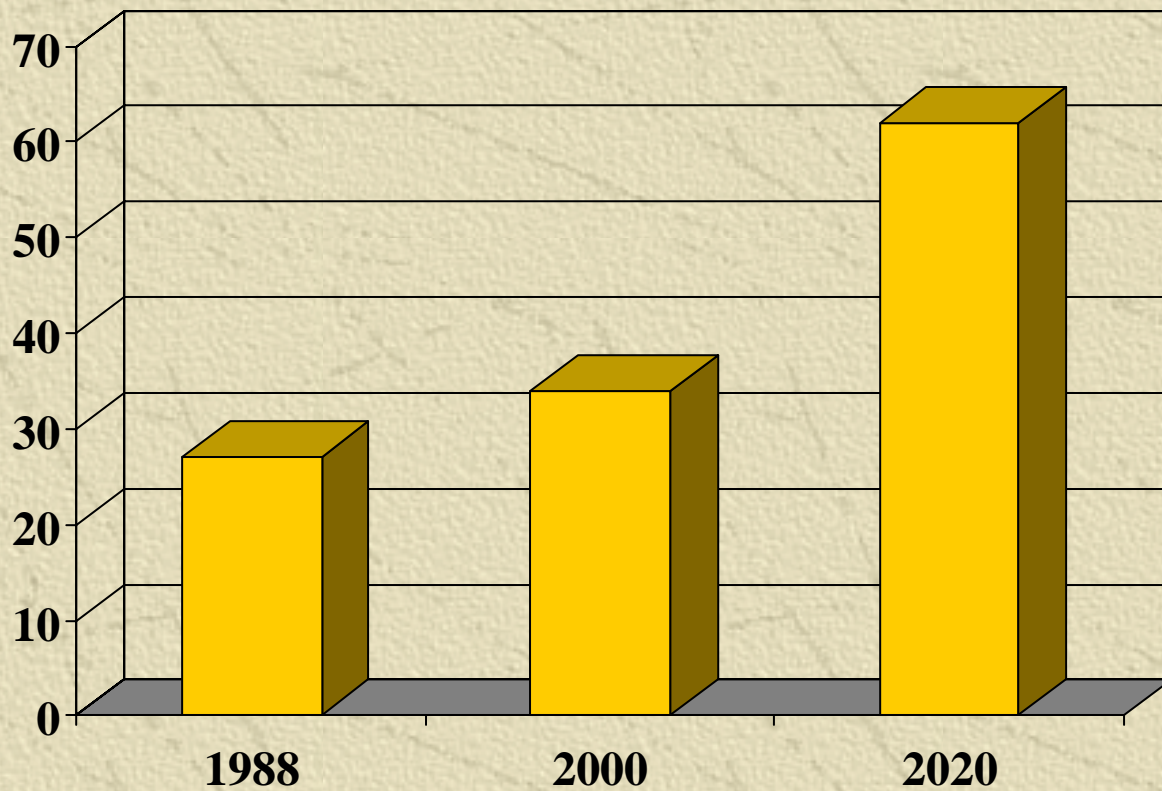


U.S. Fish
and Wildlife
Service



California
Department of
Fish and Game

California's Population Growth



Resource Competition



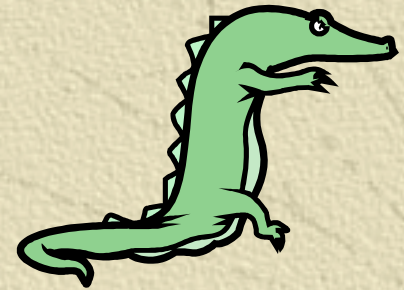
Landscape Conservation Goals

- Ecosystem approach
 - Natural communities
 - Ecological processes



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- Multiple species



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- Contribute to recovery



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 - Ecological processes
- Multiple species
- Contribute to recovery
- Prevent future declines



Land User's Goals

- Local control



Land User's Goals

- Local control
- Streamlined permitting

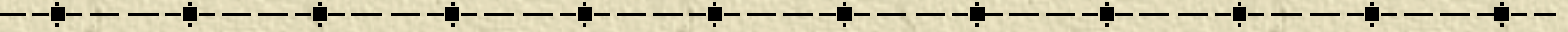


Land User's Goals

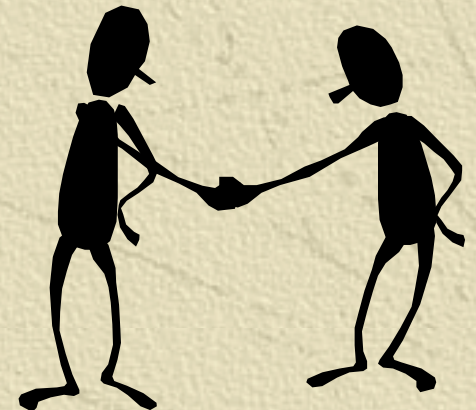
- Local control
- Streamlined permitting
- Flexibility



Land User's Goals



- Local control
- Streamlined permitting
- Flexibility
- Assurances



Land User's Goals

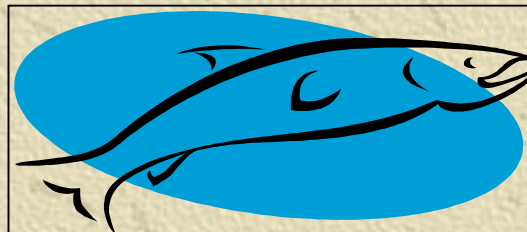
- Local control
- Streamlined permitting
- Flexibility
- Assurances
- Permits to take





Endangered Species Act

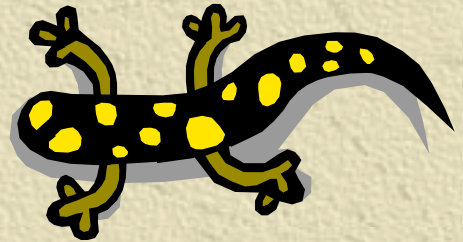
- Enacted 1973
- Conserve ecosystems for T/E species
- Section 10 incidental take permits – 1982
- Authorize non-federal incidental take
- Minimize and mitigate the taking
- Promote long term conservation of species



Endangered Species Act

Section 10 Incidental Take

- Voluntary process
- Public process
- Best available science
- Listed and unlisted species
- No Surprises = assurances
- 5 Point Policy



Endangered Species Act

Section 10 Incidental Take

- 5 Point Policy
 - ◆ Biological goals and objectives
 - ◆ Public Participation
 - ◆ Permit Duration
 - ◆ Monitoring
 - ◆ Adaptive Management



Natural Community Conservation Planning Act



- Enacted in 1991
- Protect natural diversity
- Ecosystem, landscape approach
- Allow appropriate development and growth
- Provide for species conservation and management



Natural Community Conservation Planning Act



- Locally driven collaborative partnerships
- Involves stakeholders = buy-in
- Transparent process
- Complements FESA/HCP process
- Ecosystem based approach
- Independent scientific input



Getting Started

- Scope
- Natural communities
- Focus species



Getting Started

- Scope
- Natural communities
- Focus species
- NCCP considerations
 - ◆ Planning Agreement
 - ◆ Independent science



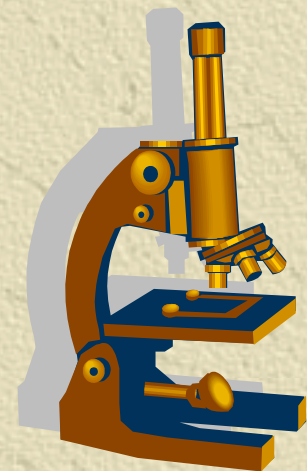


Planning Agreements shall:

- Binding on the department and other entities involved
- Define the geographic scope
- Identify a preliminary list of species and natural communities
- Identify preliminary conservation objectives
- Establish a process of inclusion of independent scientific input
- Require coordination with federal wildlife agencies
- Encourage concurrent planning for wetlands
- Establish an interim process for project review
- Establish a process for public participation

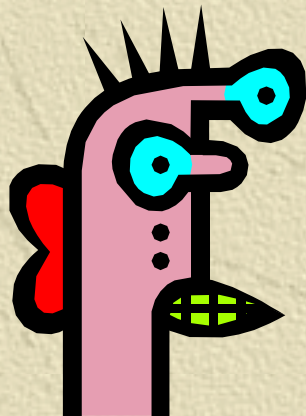
Independent Scientific Input

- Conservation strategies
- Reserve design principles
- Monitoring and adaptive management
- Data gaps and uncertainties



Like peer review, but different...

- Recognized experts
- Foundational principles, not terminal review
- Advice is used by all



Public Involvement is Critical!



A Public Process

- Public meetings
- Outreach and education
- Adequate review time



- Stakeholder Committees
 - ◆ Steering
 - ◆ Biological technical
 - ◆ Funding
 - ◆ Mitigation strategies
 - ◆ Data management (GIS)
 - ◆ Land management

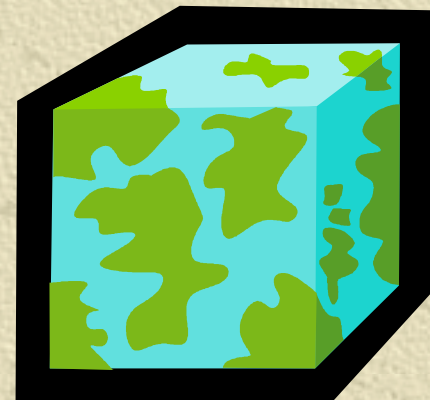
Biological Data Collection

- Natural community types
- Species specific field data
- Habitat evaluation models
- GIS



Reserve Design

- Conservation biology principles
- Species and habitat distribution
- Land ownership patterns








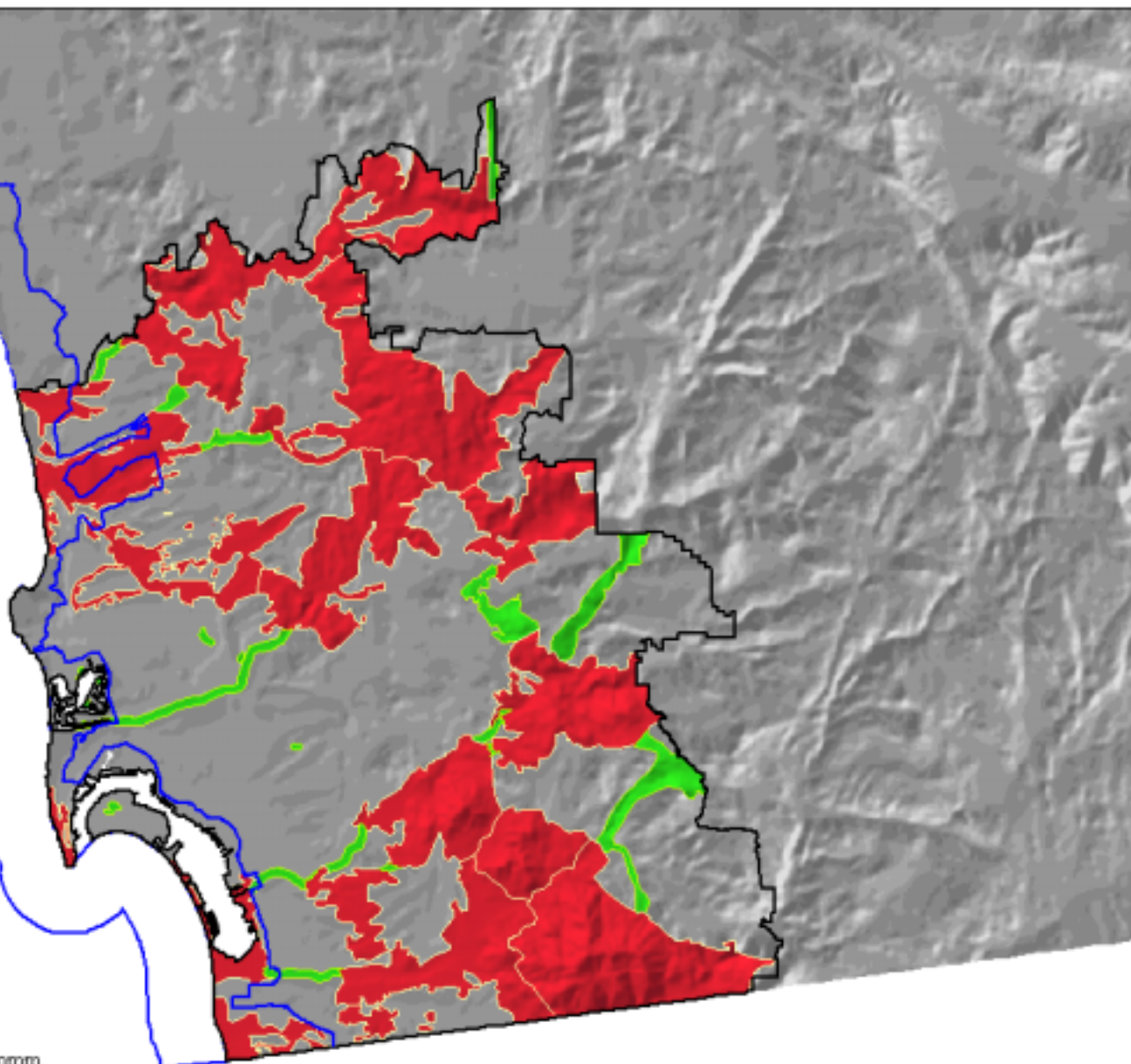
Reserve Design Principles

- Conserve target species throughout plan area
- Large blocks of contiguous habitat
- Link reserves with corridors
- Diversity of physical and environmental conditions
- Conservation of unique habitat features



**Multiple Species
Conservation Planning -
Biologically Sensitive Areas**

-  Core Biological Areas
-  Habitat Linkages
-  Coastal Zone - Calif. Coastal Comm.



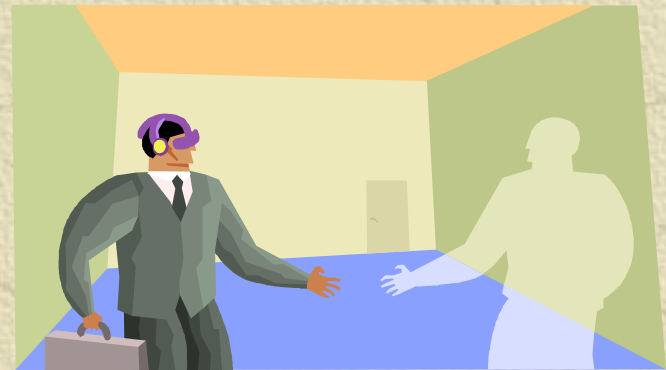
Implementation Mechanisms

- Zoning
- Ordinances
- Mitigation
- Habitat set-asides
- Existing public lands
- Conservation easements
- Acquisition



Compliance Monitoring

- Plan components
- Habitat loss and gain
- Preserve assembly
- Continuing partnerships



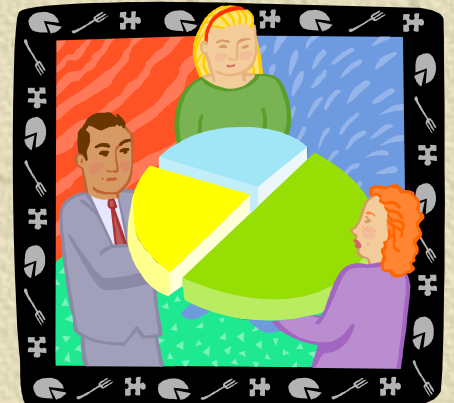
Effectiveness Monitoring

- Species and habitats
- Ecosystem function



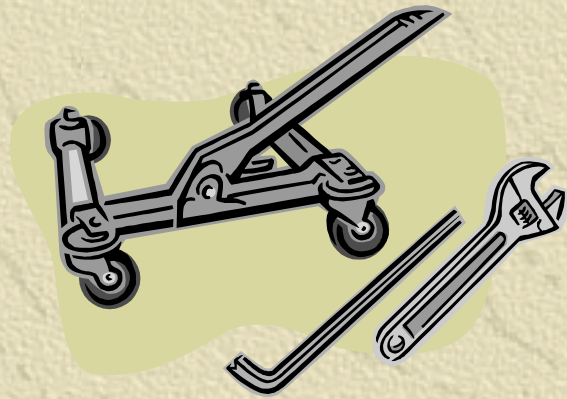
Effectiveness Monitoring

- Species and habitats
- Ecosystem function
- Common approach among land managers
- Centralized data management



Management of Preserves

- Adaptive Process
 - ◆ Restoration
 - ◆ Maintenance



Management of Preserves

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 - ◆ Maintenance
- Multiple landowners/managers
- Compatible uses



Management of Preserves

- Adaptive Process
 - ◆ Restoration
 - ◆ Maintenance
- Multiple landowners/managers
- Compatible uses
- Education
- Public access



More Information

- www.dfg.ca.gov/nccp
- endangered.fws.gov

